NOTE XXV.

PARAPERIPATUS LORENTZI HORST,

A NEW PERIPATUS FROM DUTCH NEW GUINEA

BY

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During his last expedition to the central mountain range of New Guinea, Mr. H. A. Lorentz collected a couple of *Peripatus*-specimens, which he kindly placed into my hands for examination. They were found amidst moss on Mount Wichmann at a height of 3000 M. That the couple consists of a male and a female may be considered as a happy chance, taking into account the rarity of the males in comparison with the females among the Peripatidae.

The ground-colour of my animals is a uniform dark greenish-blue, somewhat paler on the ventralside especially on the legs, on each side of the segmentalgroove; moreover there is a median ventral row of small whitish spots. These spots, situated between each pair of legs, consist of a smaller, roundish, anterior one and a larger posterior one, somewhat sagittate. The papillae around the mouth and a ring around the middle of the oral papillae are whitish, whereas the pads of the legs are ochraceous, at least in the female; in the male the last coloration is less distinct.

The female attains a much larger dimension than the male, the former measuring about 33 mm. in length, the latter only 19 mm.

There are 22 pairs of legs in the ♀, 21 in the ♂. Each leg has three spiniferous pads, the middle one of which is the largest; moreover there are remnants of a fourth one. The renal papillae of the 4th and 5th legs are situated in the middle of the 3rd proximal pad. Each foot is provided with three primary papillae, one dorsal and two lateral, one on each side.

The outer jaw-blade single, without accessory tooth.

The genital aperture, lying immediately behind the last pair of legs, is rather indistinct in the female; in the male it is situated on an elongated backwardly directed conical papilla [1]).

No doubt this species must be ranged among the genus *Paraperipatus* Willey [2]), as proved: (1) by the situation of the genital aperture behind the last pair of legs, (2) by the position of the renal papillae of the 4th and 5th leg in the middle of the proximal of the three pads, and (3) by the presence of three primary papillae on the feet. I think that *Perip. ceramensis* Muir a. Kersh. [3]) too belongs to this genus, though unfortunately we don't know the male of this species. According to Muir and Kershaw »the bilobate ovarian chamber with the single duct leading from it" should place it quite apart; however I cannot understand the meaning of this, for though the ovaries of *Perip. novae-brittaniae* are tubular, their cavities also unite into a common chamber, before communicating with the oviducts. Our specimens cannot be identified with either of the two named species, but must be considered to represent a new species, the first one, as far as I know off, found in New Guinea; it thus fills up a gap in the hitherto known geographical distribution of these interesting animals. *Paraperip. Lorentzi* may easily be distinguished from *Paraperip. novae-brittaniae* and — *ceramensis*, not only by its coloration, but also by the number of legs, 22 in the ♀; in the penultimate species it amounts to 24 in the ♀, whereas in the last species there are only 21 pairs of legs.

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1) As for the internal characters I refer to a more elaborate paper, that will be published in „Nova-Guinea", Zoology, t. IX.

2) A. Willey, The anatomy and development of *Perip. novae-brittaniae*, Zool. results based on material from New Britain, New Guinea etc. prt. I, 1898, p. 4.
E. L. Bouvier, Monographie des Onychophores: Ann. d. Sc. nat., Zoologie, (9e Sér.) t. II et V, 1905 et 1909.

3) F. Muir and J. W. Kershaw, *Peripatus ceramensis*: Quart. Journ. of Micr. Science, Vol. 53, 1909, p. 737, pl. 19.